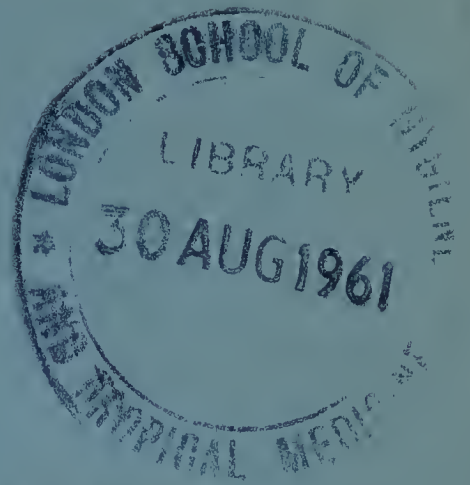


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THE ROYAL TOWN OF SUTTON COLDFIELD



BOROUGH OF SUTTON COLDFIELD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year

1959



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ANNUAL REPORT

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Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR
1959

JAMES R. PRESTON, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.F.P.S.G.
Medical Officer of Health

Public Health Department
Council House
Sutton Coldfield
Telephone No.: Sutton Coldfield 4401



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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE HEALTH OF THE ROYAL TOWN OF SUTTON COLDFIELD

By J. R. PRESTON, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.F.P.S.G.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Royal Town of
Sutton Coldfield.*

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Each year when the production of the Annual Report is considered there is a tendency to say such and such must be mentioned this year and the result is that from year to year the report gradually gets larger and larger and consequently more expensive to produce. Having seen this happening for a number of years now I have endeavoured to reduce the length of the report.

The great overshadowing feature of 1959 as far as local authorities were concerned was, of course, the question of the review of boundaries particularly in the West Midlands area. As the Town of Sutton Coldfield was included in the West Midlands conurbation, the future pattern of Health Administration lay to a great extent in the hands of those who would recommend to the Government the future shape of administration in the Midlands. Fortunately for Sutton Coldfield, in 1959 the population was for the first time officially estimated by the Registrar General at a figure over the 60,000 mark, namely, 61,980 and I think this is of some importance because it has been customary in the past when considering Health and Education administration to take a figure of 60,000 as the arbitrary one at which a Town could be reasonably considered self sufficient. The target figure for the population is of course in the region of 72,000 but at the present rate of growth, which appears to be between 3,000 and 4,000 per year, this figure will be very quickly surpassed.

In a Town such as Sutton Coldfield which has grown so rapidly and which not so long ago was a quiet residential Town, the influx of many new residents can quickly change the outlook of the population to the services offered by the local authority. In the Health Department we find that new residents demand more service and better service, and over the next ten years there is no doubt in my mind that the administration of the Town will have to be geared accordingly, and considerable expansion in services will have to take place. With the growth of the Town there has naturally been an increase in the staff of various Corporation

Departments and one of the problems that has arisen has been that of inadequate office accommodation. In due course this matter will have to be solved by the building of new offices or an extension of the present offices. There is no doubt one cannot get the best out of staff who are working in crowded accommodation. In this country office accommodation and the welfare of office workers is a matter which has been somewhat neglected and the sooner there are proper legal standards which can be enforced the better it will be for young people who find themselves forced to work in unsuitable accommodation with consequent ill effects on their health.

Another matter which the rapid growth of the Town has affected is the question of maternity accommodation. In Sutton Coldfield in the last eight years there has been a steady drop in the percentage of mothers confined in hospital or nursing homes from 78% to 63%. This was not because the expectant mothers did not wish to go into hospital but was due to the fact that the accommodation was not available. The Borough Council are very well aware of this and have from time to time drawn the attention of the Hospital Management Committee who in turn have actively pressed for an increase in the number of maternity beds in the Town. It is likely that when the accommodation at Good Hope Hospital is completed there may be as many as 50 maternity beds available there, and this will be of great value to the community.

The interest shown by the Town Council in the housing of elderly people has been sustained and this year the Council has embarked on schemes for provision of group dwellings for old people. The first is the Cremorne Road scheme which consists of seven ordinary one bedroomed type bungalows, also three one bedroom bungalows and one two bedroom bungalow specially adapted for disabled persons. There is a block consisting of eleven one bedroom type flats, seven on the ground floor and four on the first floor and three two bedroom type first floor flats. There is also a Warden's flat.

In the past when the Council have wished to provide specialised accommodation for the disabled it has been necessary to alter a house. It is undoubtedly far better to plan a few units of accommodation specially for this purpose when building, in this way avoiding a great deal of expense and trouble, and there are always suitable cases coming forward to take up this kind of specialised accommodation. Whilst on the subject of old people, I would again mention the excellent co-operation between the Old People's Welfare Committee and the Town Council. The liaison between these two bodies is excellent. As examples of this, the Secretary of the Old People's Welfare Committee is notified of the allocation of a house to any old person or even an exchange of house

and the Old People's Welfare Committee can usually arrange for voluntary workers to help the old person in taking down curtains, getting together their personal belongings and helping in other ways, making the removal much easier for the old person. In the same way the Corporation have agreed to extend the slabbing in the gardens of Corporation Houses occupied by the elderly and so lessen the area requiring to be cultivated. Old People are often annoyed by their inability to cultivate their garden and can be upset by the neglected appearance of their garden enforced upon them by physical disability.

During the year the question of the welfare of Corporation tenants was considered by Joint Committees of Health and Housing and a complete review of the position was undertaken. The number of what could be called problem families in Sutton Coldfield is in fact extremely low and consists of $\frac{1}{2}\%$ of the total families occupying Corporation dwellings. This of course is an extremely low figure and I think the Corporation ought to consider themselves very fortunate in having such a small number of true problem families to deal with. These families require a great deal of help and encouragement by the various health and welfare services and in many cases the families concerned are quite incapable of conducting their own affairs and require continual outside help. I feel there is nothing to be gained by evicting such tenants and whilst it is true that the property occupied by them requires a great deal of extra decoration and repairs, nevertheless this, I feel, has got to be put up with. If evicted, all that happens is that the children have to be boarded out at great expense to the local health authority, indirectly increasing the cost to the local ratepayer. It would seem reasonable that where possible problem families should be put in some of the older Corporation Houses and if by encouragement they show signs of improvement they could be transferred to the more modern type of Council House, alternatively, they might be placed in some of the property which the Corporation may acquire in connection with the Town development when any vacancy in this type of property occurs.

Once again I am pleased to see there has been no high incidence of infectious disease in the Town. Every endeavour is made to press on with the vaccination and immunisation schemes for Diphtheria, Smallpox, Poliomyelitis and Tuberculosis and the value of these seem to be appreciated by the residents of Sutton Coldfield.

Last year the Council decided on the standards it felt were required for Houses let in Lodgings in the Borough and during this year considerable efforts have been made to bring the houses concerned at least up to the minimum standard required. The standard applied by the Borough Council is a relatively high one and whilst little difficulty is being experienced with the family unit

type of lodgings the enforcement of standards in regard to the smaller unit is proving more difficult in view of the fact that many of these rooms are occupied for short periods and little if any food is prepared in them. No doubt the Health Committee will review these standards from time to time in the light of experience.

The importance of the education of Food Handlers in the matter of Food Hygiene is a subject of the utmost importance. The institution of a series of lectures this year for those concerned has proved a success and will no doubt be repeated in future years. Detailed reference to this is made in Section E of the report. There is no doubt that food handlers attending these courses find much of interest in them and at the end of the first course enquiries were made as to the benefits of the course and the feeling of those attending in regard to the subjects dealt with. The enquiries showed that there is a genuine interest in these type of courses by food handlers and shop keepers and there was a surprising desire to learn, particularly by the junior members of food handling staff. This was very encouraging to those who organised and took part in the lectures.

The question of inspection of carcasses and offal by the Health Inspectors is an item that has not been mentioned in recent years. I sometimes feel that the time and work put in by the Inspectors in meat inspection is not appreciated. This work is time consuming and requires considerable experience and care. In this Town there is a relatively small number of animals slaughtered but even here where there is only one Slaughterhouse in regular use over 1,000 animals were inspected.

With the steady growth of the Town a great deal more work is being steadily laid upon the shoulders of the Health Staff and I would like to thank the Health Inspectors and the Public Health Staff for the excellent way they have carried out their work during the year and for their happy co-operation. I would like to thank Mr. Impett the Chief Public Health Inspector for his able assistance. I am very fortunate in having such excellent staff in the Health Department. I would also like to thank the Chairman of the Health Committee, Councillor N. Harrison, for his help and encouragement during the year and the members of the Health Committee for their continued co-operation, I have had pleasure in working with them.

JAMES R. PRESTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1959

<i>Medical Officer of Health</i>	-	-	JAMES R. PRESTON, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.F.P.S.G.
<i>Chief Public Health Inspector</i>	-	-	C. E. IMPETT, M.R.S.H.
<i>Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector</i>	-	-	H. T. MITCHELL, M.R.S.H., A.M.I.P.H.E.
<i>Additional Public Health Inspectors</i>	-	-	H. MEREDITH. S. J. MAYO, A.R.S.H.
<i>Pupil Public Health Inspector</i>	-	-	T. R. NUTT.
<i>Chief Clerk</i>	-	-	G. W. T. NICHOLLS.
<i>Senior Clerk</i>	-	-	R. M. HALL.
<i>Shorthand Typists</i>	-	-	Miss P. MOORHOUSE. Mrs. C. M. LEATHER. Miss M. V. HILDICK.
<i>Public Analyst</i>	-	-	R. K. CHALMERS, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.
<i>Rodent Operative</i>	-	-	F. TROTT.

SECTION A

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Borough	...	...	...	...	...	13,978 acres
Population—Census, 1931	...	...	...	...	...	29,928
Census, 1951	...	...	...	...	...	47,590
As estimated by Registrar-General mid-year, 1959	...	...	...	...	...	61,980
Total number of inhabited houses—						
31st December, 1948	...	...	...	...	...	14,046
31st December, 1949	...	...	...	...	...	14,257
31st December, 1950	...	...	...	...	...	14,703
31st December, 1951	...	...	...	...	...	14,929
31st December, 1952	...	...	...	...	...	15,085
31st December, 1953	...	...	...	...	...	15,669
31st December, 1954	...	...	...	...	...	16,387
31st December, 1955	...	...	...	...	...	17,280
31st December, 1956	...	...	...	...	...	17,802
31st December, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	19,025
31st December, 1958	...	...	...	...	...	20,157
31st December, 1959	...	...	...	...	...	21,457
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1959	...	...	...	...	...	£1,078,097
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1959/60,						£4,425.

PHYSICAL FEATURES

The Municipal Borough and Royal Town of Sutton Coldfield is situated in the North-West Corner of the County of Warwick and has an area of 13,978 acres. Part of the area is agricultural but the Town is a pleasant residential area which is still developing rapidly.

ESTIMATION OF POPULATION OF WARDS AT MID-YEAR 1959

<i>Ward</i>	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Population</i>
TRINITY	1,673	4,958
HILL (East)	2,165	6,417
HILL (West)	2,173	6,440
BOLDMERE (East)	1,827	5,415
BOLDMERE (West)	1,997	5,919
WYLDE GREEN	2,341	6,938
MANEY	1,853	5,492
WALMLEY (North)	2,803	8,308
WALMLEY (South)	2,107	6,245
BANNERS GATE	1,973	5,848
	20,912	61,980

METEOROLOGY

A general survey of the meteorological records for the year ended 31st December, 1959, shows that as compared with the previous year, there was much more sunshine and far lighter rainfall.

Sunshine

The total hours of sunshine during this year amounted to 1,674·50 as against 1,232·20 hours in 1958. June was the brightest month with 257·00 hours and the dullest month of the year was once again December with 31·30 hours.

Rainfall

The total rainfall during the year was 24·05 inches as compared with 35·33 inches during 1958. Rainfall was heaviest in December with 4·00 inches and September was the driest month with 0·18 inches.

The heaviest rainfall experienced in one day occurred on the 10th August when 2·11 inches was recorded. During the year rain fell on 134 days as compared with 182 days in 1958.

Temperature

The highest temperature during the year occurred on 5th of July, when 87°F. in the shade was recorded. This was 7°F. more than the highest temperature recorded in 1958. The lowest temperature of the year occurred on 16th and 17th of January when 15°F. was recorded.

The mean temperature of the year was 50°F. this being the same as last year.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1959

						Males	Females	Total
Live Births								
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	617	589	1,206
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	8	18	26
Total registered	...	...	...	...	...	625	607	1,232
Still Births								
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	14	11	25
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total registered	...	...	...	...	...	14	11	25
Deaths								
Total registered	...	...	...	...	...	325	314	639
Infant Mortality								
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:								
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	9	10	19
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total registered	...	...	...	...	...	9	10	19
Neo-Natal Deaths								
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:								
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	6	10	16
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total registered	...	...	...	...	...	6	10	16
Peri-Natal Deaths								
Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age:								
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	6	9	15
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total registered	...	...	...	...	...	6	9	15
Maternal Mortality								
Deaths from puerperal causes:								
Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Deaths from Special Causes								
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	64	60	124
Coronary disease	...	...	...	...	...	63	50	113
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	15	7	22
Enteritis (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1959

(continued)

Birth-Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population, mid-1959	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19·88
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·40
Death-Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10·31
Death-Rate of Infants under 1 year of age								
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15·4
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15·7
Death-Rate of Infants under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12·9
Death-Rate of Infants under 1 week of age per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12·2
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births								
Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Abortion with sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Abortion without sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Death-Rate per 1,000 estimated population								
Tuberculosis—pulmonary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·02
,, non-pulmonary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2·00
Coronary Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1·82
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·32
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·37
Enteritis (under 2 years) per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·81

CAUSES OF DEATH ASSIGNABLE TO THE BOROUGH

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—	1
2	Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
3	Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4	Diphtheria	—	—	—
5	Whooping cough	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8	Measles	—	1	1
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	10	12	22
11	„ „ lung, bronchus	29	3	32
12	„ „ breast	—	10	10
13	„ „ uterus	—	4	4
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	25	31	56
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	3	2	5
16	Diabetes	1	1	2
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	45	43	88
18	Coronary disease, angina	63	50	113
19	Hypertension with heart disease ...	3	6	9
20	Other heart disease	38	57	95
21	Other circulatory disease	16	14	30
22	Influenza	11	9	20
23	Pneumonia	13	10	23
24	Bronchitis	15	7	22
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	3	1	4
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	3	1	4
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	2	3
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	5	—	5
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	2
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—	—
31	Congenital malformations	3	3	6
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	20	28	48
33	Motor vehicle accidents	6	4	10
34	All other accidents	7	14	21
35	Suicide	2	1	3
36	Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—
	ALL CAUSES	325	314	639

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH

Diseases	MALES							FEMALES												
	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 and over	All ages	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 and over	All ages
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
” other ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	3	2	10	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	7	12
” lung and bronchus ...	—	—	—	—	—	4	14	7	4	29	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	2	3
” breast ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	10
” uterus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	4	14	25	—	—	—	1	—	2	12	10	6	31
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Diabetes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	12	23	45	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	15	21	43
Coronary disease, angina ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	20	20	22	63	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	17	24	50
Hypertension with heart disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	6
Other heart disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	9	24	38	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	7	14
Other circulatory disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	1	8	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	6	9
Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	3	3	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	10
Pneumonia ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	5	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	6	7
Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	7	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hyperplasia of prostate ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Congenital malformations ...	2	1	—	—	—	2	—	3	8	20	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	2	13	28
Other defined and ill defined diseases ...	5	—	—	1	—	1	3	1	—	6	7	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	4
Motor vehicle accidents ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	5	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	13	14
All other accidents ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Suicide ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	9	2	—	2	—	11	92	78	131	325	10	2	—	3	2	13	47	70	167	314

MORTALITY BY AGE AND SEX

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Death-Rate per 1,000 Population (Estimated R.-G.)</i>
Under 1 year	...	...		9	10	19	0·307
1 and under 2	...	...		2	2	4	0·065
2 and under 5	...	...		—	—	—	0·000
5 and under 15	...	...		2	3	5	0·081
15 and under 25	...	...		—	2	2	0·032
25 and under 45	...	...		11	13	24	0·387
45 and under 65	...	...		92	47	139	2·243
65 and under 75	...	...		78	70	148	2·388
75 and over	...	...	...	131	167	298	4·808
Total—All Ages				325	314	639	10·311

VITAL STATISTICS—SUTTON COLDFIELD—1861 to 1959

<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Infant Mortality†</i>	<i>Birth- Rate†</i>	<i>Death- Rate†</i>
1861	*4,662			
1871	*5,938			
1881	*7,737			
1891	*8,686			
1892	8,950	131	21·22	13·40
1893	9,100	131	24·28	15·71
1894	10,000	90	20·00	11·50
1895	10,500	114	19·90	11·04
1896	10,800	123	19·53	13·50
1897	11,641	103	19·15	11·59
1898	12,619	91	17·35	11·64
1899	13,800	96	22·46	12·18
1900	14,517	93	22·18	11·57
1901	*14,264	97	23·61	11·87
1902	15,635	103	24·02	11·79
1903	16,619	101	21·90	11·97
1904	17,521	136	20·54	10·44
1905	18,491	73	19·90	9·19
1906	19,347	90	20·62	9·71
1907	20,391	65	19·71	8·97

*Census.

†Per 1,000 of population.

‡Per 1,000 births.

VITAL STATISTICS—SUTTON COLDFIELD—1861 to 1959—continued

Year				Population	Infant Mortality†	Birth- Rate‡	Death- Rate‡
1908	...	...	...	20,952	95	17.74	9.50
1909	...	...	...	21,325	101	17.06	9.61
1910	...	...	...	21,780	104	18.41	9.91
1911	...	...	...	*20,132	105	19.37	10.53
1912	...	...	...	20,600	52	16.87	8.54
1913	...	...	...	20,919	71	19.41	10.97
1914	...	...	...	21,437	53	18.24	9.98
1915	...	...	...	22,513	76	13.85	10.61
1916	...	...	...	22,513	58	16.24	10.76
1917	...	...	...	21,475	61	15.22	12.87
1918	...	...	...	20,685	68	15.74	12.95
1919	...	...	...	20,853	47	15.74	11.56
1920	...	...	...	21,684	31.2	20.6	9.3
1921	...	...	...	*23,028	58.9	17.07	10.02
1922	...	...	...	23,100	56.55	16.83	10.83
1923	...	...	...	23,210	79.54	15.16	9.43
1924	...	...	...	23,570	55.21	13.83	9.75
1925	...	...	...	23,800	37.46	14.57	9.49
1926	...	...	...	24,850	51.61	12.47	10.78
1927	...	...	...	25,540	67.56	14.48	11.19
1928	...	...	...	26,720	30.58	12.23	10.36
1929	...	...	...	27,450	43.47	10.89	13.29
1930	...	...	...	27,450	53.25	12.31	10.20
1931	...	...	...	*29,928	48.0	12.66	11.01
1932	...	...	...	30,310	38.46	12.01	10.06
1933	...	...	...	31,230	28.75	10.02	9.86
1934	...	...	...	32,070	28.25	11.04	10.25
1935	...	...	...	33,110	40.72	13.34	9.69
1936	...	...	...	33,830	34.01	13.04	10.91
1937	...	...	...	35,050	46.15	12.98	11.50
1938	...	...	...	36,350	47.62	15.02	9.46
1939	...	...	...	38,260	28.78	14.45	9.71
1940	...	...	...	40,630	34.25	14.30	11.96
1941	...	...	...	42,060	48.21	13.24	11.17
1942	...	...	...	42,300	40.79	15.65	10.50
1943	...	...	...	41,610	37.3	16.13	10.98
1944	...	...	...	42,440	28.81	19.63	11.26
1945	...	...	...	42,420	35.14	16.10	9.71
1946	...	...	...	44,460	31.75	17.00	11.25
1947	...	...	...	45,280	26.00	18.93	11.08
1948	...	...	...	46,190	25.6	16.09	9.6
1949	...	...	...	46,580	21.4	14.04	11.1
1950	...	...	...	47,440	13.8	13.8	10.9
1951	...	...	...	*47,590	15.4	13.6	11.9
1952	...	...	...	48,180	21.91	13.3	10.5
1953	...	...	...	48,670	13.1	15.72	9.57
1954	...	...	...	49,780	15.5	14.2	9.6
1955	...	...	...	50,630	19.7	16	10.4
1956	...	...	...	52,510	15.5	17.2	10.2
1957	...	...	...	55,950	24.8	17.93	8.85
1958	...	...	...	58,670	18.3	19.60	9.03
1959	...	...	...	61,980	15.4	19.88	10.31

*Census.

†Per 1,000 of population.

‡Per 1,000 births.

COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

Deaths

The death rate for 1959 was 10·31. This year there was an increase of 109 deaths as compared with 1958.

Birth-Rate

The birth rate for 1959 was 19·88 per 1,000 population and is the highest figure registered during the last 39 years. This increase of 82 live births as compared with last year is again undoubtedly due to the influx of young married couples to the Town.

In 1959 the live births exceeded the number of deaths by 593.

Infant Mortality

The Infant Mortality Rate in 1959 was 15·4 per 1,000 live births.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

The Public Health Laboratory

The Public Health Laboratory under the direction of Dr. Sandiford undertakes bacteriological investigations on behalf of the Public Health Department and is always most helpful in giving advice. No charge is made to the local authority for this service.

Ambulance Service

The Ambulance Service in the Borough is under the control of Warwickshire County Council, the service is centred at the Ambulance Depot in Boldmere Road.

At the end of 1959 there were 18 driver-attendants, 1 attendant, and 1 Superintendent.

There are two ambulances, two sitting case cars and one dual purpose vehicle which can be used to carry nine sitting cases or one stretcher case and four sitting cases—all vehicles are radio controlled.

The miles covered during the year were 93,921, an increase of 3,072, as compared with last year's mileage. The number of patients moved was 15,545, a decrease over the previous year of 254.

District Nursing and Midwifery Services

At the end of 1959 there were seven full-time midwives, six full-time district nurses, two part-time district nurses and two state registered nurses and one state enrolled assistant nurse.

The number of general visits carried out increased to 21,032 as compared with 20,830 for last year. The number of maternity and midwifery visits also increased to 17,282 as compared with 15,539 for 1958.

The recruitment of nursing staff is at present one of the great problems of the Health Department. There is of course a general shortage of qualified midwives and district nurses. One of the most important factors in obtaining such staff is the provision of a house of good standard. The Borough Council has always been most helpful to the County Council in this and in fact the bulk of the houses provided for the county staff has been given by the Borough Council. Without this help I am sure the staffing position would have been extremely difficult over the last few years.

Health Visiting

In this area a maximum of nine health visitors was employed during the year and also four part-time trained nurses assist at all clinics.

At the end of the year there were only seven health visitors two having resigned earlier in the year and in spite of repeatedly advertising it was not found possible to recruit staff for many months.

There is at the moment also a general shortage of health visitors and it would seem that few areas in the country are adequately staffed. With the quick growth of the town it has been necessary to increase the nursing staff, and this area has not been able to obtain health visitors to cope with this increase in population or replace easily health visitors who have resigned for one reason or another. Only by re-allocation of duties and cutting down visits has it been possible to continue the work.

This shortage is reflected in the total visits paid by health visitors during the year.

Health visitors paid 19,450 visits during the year as compared with 21,410 for 1958.

Clinics and Centres

SCHOOL CLINIC

9 HOLLAND STREET, SUTTON COLDFIELD

Monday	-	-	A.M.	AURAL CLINIC (First and third Mondays in month).
			A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
Tuesday	-	-	A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			A.M.	CHEST CLINIC.
			P.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	EYE CLINIC.
Wednesday	-	-	A.M.	EYE CLINIC.
			A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
Thursday	-	-	A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	CONSULTATION CLINIC.
Friday	-	-	A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
Saturday	-	-	A.M.	CONSULTATION CLINIC (as required).

WELFARE CENTRE

49 HOLLAND STREET, SUTTON COLDFIELD

Monday	-	-	A.M.	SUN-RAY CLINIC (Winter months only).
			P.M.	CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.
Tuesday	-	-	A.M.	ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINIC (alternate weeks).
			P.M.	EXERCISE CLINIC (Children).
Wednesday	-	-	A.M.	SPEECH THERAPY CLINIC (Children).
			P.M.	CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.
Thursday	-	-	A.M.	SUN-RAY CLINIC (Winter months only).
			A.M.	B.C.G. CLINIC (Children) (Fourth Thursday in month).
			P.M.	EXERCISE CLINIC (Children).
			Evening	LIP READING CLASS (Adults).
Friday	-	-	P.M.	PREPARATION FOR MOTHERHOOD CLINIC (alternate weeks).
			P.M.	MATERNITY BOOKINGS (alternate weeks).
			Evening	FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC.

WELFARE CENTRE

MERE GREEN ROAD, SUTTON COLDFIELD

Tuesday	-	-	A.M.	ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL, AND TODDLERS' CLINIC (alternate weeks).
			P.M.	CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.
Wednesday	-	-	P.M.	CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.
Thursday	-	-	A.M.	PREPARATION FOR MOTHERHOOD CLINIC (alternate weeks).
			P.M.	MATERNITY BOOKINGS (alternate weeks).
			P.M.	PREPARATION FOR MOTHERHOOD CLINIC (alternate weeks).

WELFARE CENTRE
BOLDMERE ROAD, BOLDMERE, SUTTON COLDFIELD

Monday	-	-	A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC (alternate weeks).
			Evening	FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC.
Tuesday	-	-	A.M.	SPEECH THERAPY CLINIC.
			A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	PSYCHIATRIC OUT-PATIENT CLINIC.
Wednesday	-	-	A.M.	ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINIC (alternate weeks).
			A.M.	TODDLER CLINIC (alternate weeks).
			A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
Thursday	-	-	P.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.
			A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	PREPARATION FOR MOTHERHOOD CLINIC (alternate weeks).
Friday	-	-	P.M.	MATERNITY BOOKINGS (alternate weeks).
			A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.

WELFARE CENTRE
THE GREEN, MINWORTH

Wednesday	-	P.M.	CHILD WELFARE, ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINIC AND MATERNITY BOOKINGS (Combined) (alternate weeks).
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WELFARE CENTRE
WALMLEY ROAD, WALMLEY

Tuesday	-	P.M.	CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.
Wednesday	-	P.M.	PREPARATION FOR MOTHERHOOD CLINIC AND MATERNITY BOOKINGS (alternate weeks).
Thursday	-	P.M.	SPEECH THERAPY CLINIC.

WELFARE CENTRE
BANNERS GATE ROAD, BANNERS GATE

Tuesday	-	-	P.M.	PREPARATION FOR MOTHERHOOD CLINIC (alternate weeks).
			P.M.	MATERNITY BOOKINGS (alternate weeks).
Friday	-	-	A.M.	ANTE-NATAL, POST-NATAL, AND TODDLER CLINIC (alternate weeks).
			P.M.	CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.

WELFARE CENTRE
CHURCHILL ROAD, FALCON LODGE

Monday	-	-	A.M.	SPEECH THERAPY.
			P.M.	SPEECH THERAPY.
Tuesday	-	-	P.M.	CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.
Wednesday	-	-	P.M.	PREPARATION FOR MOTHERHOOD CLINIC (alternate weeks).
			P.M.	MATERNITY BOOKINGS (alternate weeks).
Thursday	-	-	A.M.	TODDLERS AND ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.
			Evening	DENTAL CLINIC (Expectant Mothers).

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics

Six ante-natal and post-natal clinic sessions are held in Sutton Coldfield clinics. One is held weekly, and five fortnightly.

The local maternity hospital has its own ante-natal clinic and certain of the general practitioners have regular ante-natal and post-natal clinics. There has been a general fall in the level of attendances at the local authority clinics, but provided the mothers receive adequate ante-natal and post-natal care from their practitioners or at the hospital they have booked with, I do not think this is of any great consequence, provided the mothers are able to attend the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics for such things as general health education talks, preparation for motherhood classes and also ante-natal and post-natal exercises. In the past there has been too much duplication of services.

Maternal Mortality

I am very pleased to report once again that there were no maternal deaths in the Borough, although there were 1,232 live births in the Borough in 1959. This is an increase of 82 births over the 1958 figure.

Infant Mortality

There were 19 deaths of infants under a year giving an infant mortality rate of 15.4 which is considerably lower than the figure of 18.3 for 1958.

Hospital Accommodation for Maternity Cases

Sutton Coldfield Maternity Unit provided accommodation for 299 institutional confinements. Domiciliary confinements amounted to 461 which is an increase of 29 as compared with 1958. Other Hospitals outside Sutton Coldfield and private nursing homes provided for the remainder, namely 476.

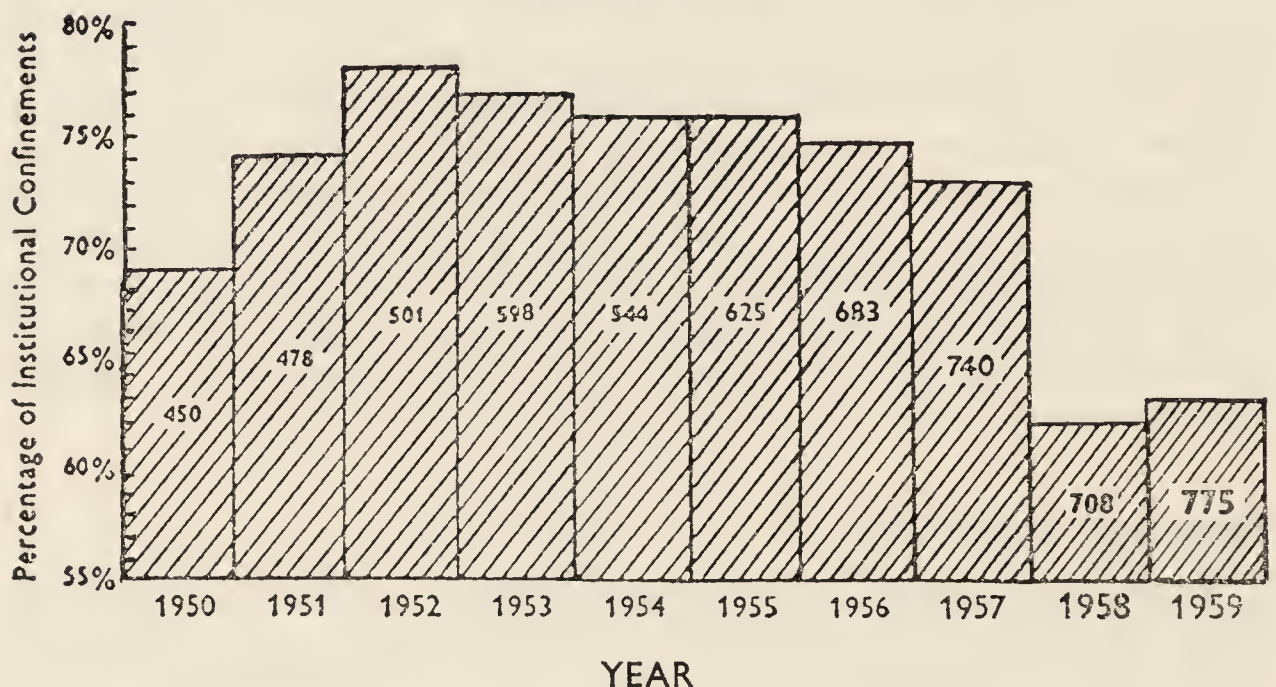
In 1959 approximately 63% of confinements took place in institutions. This is an increase of 1% compared with 1958. Many of the institutions run their own clinics and this naturally causes a fall in numbers in local authority clinic attendances.

There has been a steady drop in the percentage of institutional confinements in Sutton Coldfield since 1952 and there is no doubt that there is a relative shortage of beds, but as has already been mentioned steps are being taken by the Hospital Management Committee to provide more beds which will probably be available in a few years time.

Maternity Accommodation

Number and Percentage of Institutional Confinements for the Past Ten Years

GRAPH No. 1



Cases which for social reasons cannot remain at home are visited by the Local Health Authority midwives and referred where appropriate to the Hospital Management Committee for admission to a maternity ward.

Home Help Service

This service is under the control of the local Health Authority, Warwickshire County Council, the day-to-day administration being carried out in the Sutton Coldfield Area Health Department.

Compared with last year the number of cases given help during the year increased by 53 to 440 but the number of hours decreased by 4,763 to a total of 38,905 hours.

There were 282 short term cases the majority of which were maternity cases, and 158 long term cases, most of which were the aged and infirm.

The number of home helps employed at the end of the year was 45 part time, working on an average of 4-6 hours/day.

Day Nurseries

There are no Day Nurseries in Sutton Coldfield.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA WATER SUPPLY

There are three systems of water supply in the Borough:

- (a) The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company. (This serves the majority of the populated area).
- (b) The Birmingham City Water Undertaking. (This serves certain areas adjacent to the Birmingham City Boundary).
- (c) Private Supplies. (Spring or well supplies in the outlying and rural areas).

Some notes on these three systems are given below:

- (a) and (b) Public Water Supplies.
- (a) The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

The supply is derived from five underground sources and also from the Blithfield Reservoir. Chlorination is practised as a precautionary measure at four of the supplying stations, while the supply from the Blithfield Reservoir is filtered and chlorinated at Seedy Mill Purification Works. The sources of supply are examined regularly and frequently, both bacteriologically and chemically, and where chlorination is practised, bacteriological samples of the raw water are examined where possible.

During 1959 of 264 samples of the water pumped to supply 260 were entirely satisfactory. 160 samples of the water prior to chlorination were examined of which 155 were entirely satisfactory. Of 311 samples of the chlorinated Blithe water 298 were entirely satisfactory.

Regular monthly tap samples were examined within the Borough from:—

The Company's Depot, Coleshill Road, Sutton Coldfield,
Sutton Coldfield Golf Club, Streetly, and
50 Four Oaks Road, Four Oaks.

Thirteen samples from each of these three points were all entirely satisfactory. Chemical composition was fairly constant, hardness averaging 223 p.p.m.

The average chemical results for 1959 of the 13 samples from the Waterworks Depot were:—

pH	...	...	...	...	7.5			
Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	...	...	...	...	123	Parts per million		
Chlorides (Cl)	...	...	...	...	27.9	"	"	"
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (N)	...	...	...	...	Trace	"	"	"
Albuminoid Nitrogen (N)	...	...	...	...	Trace	"	"	"
Oxidised Nitrogen (N)	...	...	...	...	6.4	"	"	"
Oxygen absorbed (3 hr. at 27°C.)	...	...	...	...	.12	"	"	"
Temporary Hardness	...	...	...	...	117	"	"	"
Permanent Hardness	...	...	...	...	106	"	"	"
Total Hardness	...	...	...	...	223	"	"	"
Iron (Fe)	...	...	...	...	.03	"	"	"
Manganese (Mn)	...	...	...	...	Nil	"	"	"
Zinc (Zn)	...	...	...	...	Nil	"	"	"
Poisonous Metals (Cu and Pb)	...	...	...	...	Nil	"	"	"
Free Cl	...	...	...	...	Nil	"	"	"

The water is not liable to plumbo-solvency, all the tap samples being free from any detectable quantities of lead.

The following particulars are of the main extensions laid during 1959:

				<i>Length in yards</i>				
<i>Location</i>				3"	4"	6"	9"	12"
Coppice Farm Site	...	...	...	97	960			
Tee Tree Farm Site	...	...	...		261			
Moor Hall Site	...	...	...	2	2,856	123	304	1,696
Somerville Estate	...	...	...		724			
Waylands Estate	...	...	...		317			
Blackberry Lane	...	...	...		18			
Golf Links Estate	...	...	...		945			
Bedford Drive	...	...	...		163			
School Farm Site	...	...	...		840			
Belwell Lane	...	...	...		219	127		
Vincent Road Site	...	...	...		89			
Walmley Estate	...	...	...		774	241		
Reddicap Hill	...	...	...		74			
Hollyfield Road Site	...	...	...		242			
Sara Close	...	...	...		153			
Hill Village Road Site	...	...	...		213			
Hill Farm Estate	...	...	...		725			
Watford Gap	...	...	...				14	
				99	9,573	491	318	1,696

Within the area of supply in the Borough 19,637 houses are supplied direct and seven by means of outside taps.

A copy of a sample of water submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service is given below:

Bacteriological

Total Count: Number of colonies developing from 1 ml.
of sample in agar after two days' incubation
at 37°C. 1

Coliform Count: Type and number per 100 ml. of sample ... Nil

(b) The Birmingham City Water Undertaking

A small proportion of the Borough adjacent to the Birmingham boundary is supplied with water from the mains of the City of Birmingham Water Department. This is soft moorland water derived from the Department's gathering grounds in the Elan Valley in Wales and is first treated by rapid gravity filters followed by treatment with hydrated lime to neutralise its natural acidity and, finally, chlorination before entering the Elan Aqueduct. After passing through storage reservoirs at the Birmingham end of the Aqueduct, the water is further treated at the Frankley Works by rapid or slow sand filtration followed by chlorination, after which it remains underground until reaching the consumers.

During the months of April, June and September it was necessary to draw on the local Short Heath well in order to assist in maintaining supplies in parts of the gravitational system during periods when various sections of the large diameter trunk mains were taken out of commission for reconditioning. On these occasions the supply to the parish of Minworth may have consisted of a mixture of both waters with perhaps considerable day-to-day variation in chemical characteristics, particularly hardness. The Short Heath well water was chlorinated before being passed into distribution.

During 1959, 52 weekly bacteriological samples of the treated Welsh water passing into distribution at the Frankley Works contained an average of less than four organisms per ml. after 48 hours incubation in agar at 37°C., the highest concentration in any sample being 53 per ml. Slight faecal contamination was detected on one occasion following the cleaning and relining of the main

close to the sampling point, but otherwise Coliform bacteria were absent from all these samples.

Seven weekly bacteriological samples of the Short Heath well water passing into distribution contained an average of less than six organisms per ml. and no Coliform bacteria were present.

The average results obtained by the City Analyst from his routine samples of water as distributed in the area of supply during 1959, together with the range of variation are as shown in the following table:

Description					Elan Water: (1)	Extremes of results in (1) <i>Minimum Maximum</i>	
pH	...	...	...	...	6.9	6.7	7.3
Total Solid Matter	...	...	...	p.p.m.	42	37	49
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	„	.000	—	—
Albuminoid or Organic Ammonia	...	...	...	„	.029	.008	.066
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...	...	...	„	0	—	—
Oxygen consumed in 4 hours at 27° (80°F.)	...	...	...	„	1.17	0.84	2.00
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	„	8.5	8	10
Hardness (as CaCO ₃)	...	...	...	„	18	16	20
Total Alkalinity (as CaCO ₃)	...	...	...	„	8	7	9
Erosion—1 day	...	...	...	„	115	100	150
					Short Heath Well		
pH	...	...	...	...	7.2	7.1	7.4
Total Solid Matter	...	...	...	...	465	427	520
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	...	.000	—	—
Albuminoid or Organic Ammonia	...	...	...	...	.014	.000	.036
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...	...	...	...	9.2	5.9	12.4
Oxygen consumed in 4 hours at 27° (80°F.)	...	...	...	...	0	—	—
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	...	32	32	32
Hardness (as CaCO ₃)	...	...	...	...	273	252	292
Total Alkalinity (as CaCO ₃)	...	...	...	...	96	92	106

During 1959 no main extensions were carried out within the Borough by the City of Birmingham Water Department.

Bacteriological

Total Count: Number of colonies developing from 1 ml.
of sample in agar after two days' incubation
at 37°C. 0

Coliform Count: Type and number per 100 ml. of sample ... Nil

I am indebted to Mr. R. H. Taylor, B.Sc., M.I.C.E., Engineer-in-Chief of the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company and Mr. C. A. Risbridger, B.Sc., M.I.C.E., Chief Engineer of the City of Birmingham Water Department for the information supplied with regard to their respective water undertakings and their comments on the analysis of the water supply.

(c) Private Water Supplies

In the rural parts of the Borough there are 34 houses on private supplies. This is a reduction of two since last year.

During the year 72 samples were taken from these supplies. 18 were unsatisfactory, 19 suspicious, 10 satisfactory and 25 excellent. There is no recognised classification for this type of water supply but the classifications given above are based upon results from the Laboratory and the conditions known to exist at and around the supply.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The main drainage of the town was undertaken in 1887 and runs by way of the valley of Plants Brook to the Tame and Rea District Drainage Board in an egg-shaped main sewer which is 4ft. 6in. × 3ft. at its outfall at Minworth.

Boldmere was drained in 1900 and here in parts of Jockey Road a depth of 60 feet was attained.

The main drainage of the Streetly area was completed in the early part of this century, and a sewage lift operates in Streetly Lane owing to the low level of the sewer.

The sewage from the area east of Walmley Road drains to the sewage disposal works at Langley Farm.

During the year sewers were laid as follows:—

	Surface Water Sewers						Foul Water Sewers	
	Yards						Yards	
	6"	9"	12"	15"	18"	24"	6"	9"
Bakers Lane Estate ...	—	180	—	—	—	—	—	183
Brentnall Drive ...	30	183	—	—	—	—	—	183
Clarendon Road ...	—	47	—	—	—	—	—	—
Conchar Road ...	253	240	—	—	—	—	270	—
Darnel Hurst Road ...	100	233	—	—	—	—	—	178
Devereux Road ...	103	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dower Road ...	33	110	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eachelhurst Road ...	36	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
East View Road S.W.S.	—	—	594	360	151	577	—	—
Edwards Road ...	—	130	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hathaway Road ...	—	270	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hill Morton Road ...	—	67	—	—	—	133	—	133
Hill Village Road ...	39	612	—	—	—	—	—	—
Holte Drive ...	—	167	—	—	—	—	9	131
Jordan Close ...	103	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kingsbury Road S.W.S.	—	—	100	—	31	—	—	—
Ley Hill Road ...	—	290	—	—	—	—	—	290
Mayall Drive ...	20	160	—	—	—	—	153	—
Meadowside Road ...	—	188	—	—	—	—	—	109
Park View Road ...	—	440	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pentridge Close ...	70	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pilkington Avenue ...	—	80	60	—	—	—	80	60
Public F.P. (Coopers E)	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	—
South Drive ...	153	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Blaise Road ...	—	130	—	—	—	—	52	82
St. Chads Road ...	140	76	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Martins Road ...	83	200	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Thomas Close ...	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trenchard Close ...	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trinity Road ...	—	190	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wall Drive ...	129	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wall Drive ...	127	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Walsall Road ...	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	1,579	3,993	754	360	182	690	581	1,349

HOUSES WITH SUB-STANDARD SANITATION

(a) Not connected to main drainage:

At the 31st December, 1959, 264 houses were not connected to main drainage, 125 having privy closets, two of this number sharing privy accommodation. 114 houses had a water closet connected

to a cesspool and 25 were served by water closet connected to a treatment unit.

259 of the houses not connected to main drainage are situated in the Walmley and Hill Wards. The Corporation provides a cesspool emptying service on payment by the occupier. Pail closets, which are not emptied by the Corporation, are mostly situated in the rural areas. The contents are emptied by the occupiers and buried.

(b) Shared Water Closets connected to main sewer:

143 houses have water closets used in common with another house. This is a reduction of 18, mainly due to demolition of sub-standard property. A considerable proportion of the houses with shared water closet facilities are situated in the central section of the Borough.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

These services are carried out by the Borough Surveyor's Department under the direction of the Highways Committee.

**House Refuse Collection and Disposal (Combined)
Refuse Destructor**

1959			Destroyed			Tipped		
			tons	cwts.	qrs.	tons	cwts.	qrs.
January	...	...	1,699	15	0	49	12	0
February	...	...	1,378	6	0	84	12	0
March	...	...	1,350	11	0			
April	...	...	1,305	4	0	103	9	0
May	...	...	832	2	0	162	7	0
June	...	...	1,029	13	0	16	3	0
July	...	...	1,002	19	0			
August	...	...	906	11	0			
September	...	...	1,079	4	0			
October	...	...	372	10	0	969	9	0
November	...	...	836	18	0	693	8	0
December	...	...	1,559	7	0	47	18	0
			13,353	0	0	2,126	18	0

Total: 15,479 tons, 18 cwts., 0 qrs.

Cwts. collected per 1,000 population per day ... 13.7 cwts.

Street Cleaning and Gulley Cleaning

There are 125 miles of roads in the Borough. The method of street cleaning includes the use of street orderly carts and two mechanical road sweepers.

Gulley emptying is carried out by means of one Dennis and two Shelvoke and Drury gulley emptiers.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

There are no rivers in the Borough but a number of streams are subject to supervision from time to time.

With the continued increase in housing and street development streams have become increasingly liable to surcharge during heavy rain. This has been particularly the case in the Rectory Road/ Coleshill Road area where flooding continues to occur.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The establishment of the Department is fixed at five Public Health Inspectors but there were only four on the staff during the year.

The work in the Department continues to expand with the increase in population, houses, shops and factories.

During the year 1,465 complaints were received and investigated, the classification of these complaints is set out below:

Animal Keeping	...	...	...	...	25
Food ...	...	...	...	...	115
Housing	...	...	...	...	195
Drains	...	...	...	...	168
Rodents	...	...	...	...	447
Air Pollution	...	...	...	...	44
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	2
Factories Act	...	...	...	...	3
Dustbins	...	...	...	...	117
Insects ...	...	...	...	...	163
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	...	50
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	82
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	54
					<hr/> 1,465 <hr/>

A summary of the visits made by the Inspectors is given in the following tabular statement.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS. ANNUAL TABULAR STATEMENT

VISITS

Public Health Acts

Houses (Primary Visits)	...	...	...	...	394
Houses (Secondary Visits)	...	...	...	...	842
Movable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	393
Drainage: (a) Main	...	...	...	...	672
(b) Cesspools	...	...	...	...	55
(c) Privies	...	...	...	...	14
Water Supply: (a) Main	...	...	...	...	3
(b) Wells	...	...	...	...	13
(c) Others	...	...	...	...	7
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	185
Infectious Diseases Disinfection	...	...	...	...	25
Dirty and Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	57
Other Infested Premises	...	...	...	...	322
Animal Keeping (a) Domestic	...	...	...	...	73
(b) Pigsties	...	...	...	...	51
(c) Horses	...	...	...	...	4
(d) Cattle	...	...	...	...	11
Accumulations and Deposits	...	...	...	...	77
Dustbins	...	...	...	...	358
Pigbins	...	...	...	...	11
Refuse Destructor	...	...	...	...	24
Tips	...	...	...	...	105
Ponds, Pools, Watercourses	...	...	...	...	26
Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	9
Public Halls (without catering)	...	...	...	...	17
Schools	...	...	...	...	61
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	51
Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	...	...	647
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	45
Sports Grounds	...	...	...	...	29
Other Premises	...	...	...	...	3
Noise Complaints	...	...	...	...	14
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	100

Housing Acts

Inspection of Council Houses	...	...	...	...	2,051
Housing Consolidated Regulations	...	...	...	...	164
Substandard Houses	...	...	...	...	646
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	21
Houses Let in Lodgings	...	...	...	...	59
Housing ex District Enquiries	...	...	...	...	2
Unsatisfactory Council House Tenants	...	...	...	...	21

Rent Act	149
-----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act

Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Other Pests	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Factories Acts

Factories with Power	...	...	...	...	...	138
Factories without Power	...	...	...	...	...	9
Building Operations and Works Eng. Construction...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	28

Food and Drugs Act

Shops:

Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	62
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	158
Chemist	...	...	...	...	...	15
Fish (Fried)	...	...	...	...	...	23
Fish (Wet)	...	...	...	...	...	24
Greengrocer	...	...	...	...	...	161
Grocer	...	...	...	...	...	435
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	15
Sweetshop	...	...	...	...	...	108
Wines Shop/Beer Off	...	...	...	...	...	20

Other Premises:							
Bakehouse	...	...	...	...	...	...	59
Hotel/Restaurant/Canteen	...	...	...	...	...	...	160
Public House	...	...	...	...	...	...	74
Slaughterhouse	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Preserved Food Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
School Meals Centre	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
Public Halls (with catering)	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Food Factory/Warehouse	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Park Food Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Mobile Food Vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Food Poisoning Investigations	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Food Inspection:							
Meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	182
Other Food	...	...	...	...	...	...	159
Milk and Dairies:							
Retailers' Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Milk Transports	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sampling:							
Food and Drugs Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	172
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	376
Water	...	...	...	...	...	...	88
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	187
Visits to Laboratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Merchandise Marks Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Court Proceedings	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Meetings and Exhibitions	...	...	...	...	...	...	182
							<hr/>
							11,143
							<hr/>

NOTICES under the Public Health Act, 1936

	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>				<i>Grand Total</i>
		<i>S.39</i>	<i>S.45</i>	<i>S.75</i>	<i>S.93</i>	
Outstanding 31/12/58	21	—	—	4	6	31
Served during 1959	102	6	—	32	20	160
Totals	123	6	—	36	26	191
Outstanding 31/12/59	15	3	—	1	4	23
Complied with during 1959 ...	108	3	—	35	22	168

WORK REQUIRED BY NOTICES

Drainage

Drains—unchoked or repaired	...	...	...	...	2
W.C.s—repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	11

Water Supply

Service pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	2
Roofs —repaired	...	...	...	...	24
Rainwater Conduits —repaired	...	...	...	...	36
Walls —external, repaired	...	...	...	...	23
Chimneys —repaired	...	...	...	...	12
Doors —repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	14
Windows —repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	27
Ceiling and Internal Walls —repaired	...	...	...	...	27
Floors —repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	7
Staircases —repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Sinks —repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	3
Firegrates —repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	5
Dustbins —provided (owner/occupied houses)	...	...	...	...	19
Houses —cleansed	...	...	...	...	1
Accumulations —removed	...	...	...	...	2

SHOPS AND OFFICES

Inspection of shops continues to be very largely carried out in connection with routine inspection under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Legislation more effective and comprehensive than at present in force has been promised for some years but has not yet materialised.

CARAVANS AND CAMPING SITES

At the end of the year there were 22 occupied caravans, for which individual licences were held. All these licences terminate on the 31st December and are renewable.

For the third year in succession there has been a decline in the number of licences. The current figure represents a decrease of six over the past year.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

During the year the Council continued its membership of the Warwickshire Clean Air Council and through that body carried out the measurement of atmospheric pollution within the Borough.

Gauges are sited as follows:

<i>Location</i>	<i>Volumetric Gauges Site No.</i>	<i>Lead Peroxide Gauges Site No.</i>	<i>Deposit Gauges Site No.</i>
Television Station	—	LP 13	DG 13
Cemetery	—	LP 32	DG 23
Ash Farm, Minworth	—	LP 33	DG 24
Council House	V 28	—	—
Boldmere High School	V 6	—	—

Arrangements were made for the siting of additional gauges during 1960.

Results obtained from the above gauges during 1959 are as follows:

		TONS PER SQUARE MILE												mg/100 sq. cm/day				
		RAINFALL IN INCHES			Total water insoluble matter			Total water soluble matter			Total solids			Wt. of So3 collected				
					Site Number			Site Number			Site Number							
1959	Site Number			13 T.V.	23 Cem.	24 Min.	13 T.V.	23 Cem.	24 Min.	13 T.V.	23 Cem.	54 Min.	16 T.V.	23 Cem.	24 Min.			
	January	...	...	2.32	2.51	2.17	2.45	2.28	6.46	4.34	3.29	4.84	6.79	5.57	11.30	2.54	2.22	3.26
	February	...	...	0.21	0.21	0.23	4.24	5.00	8.28	3.02	2.62	2.28	7.26	7.62	10.56	2.50	2.56	3.79
	March	...	...	1.69	1.34	1.26	3.81	2.95	8.81	4.51	2.62	4.11	8.32	5.57	12.92	1.25	1.33	2.37
	April	...	...	3.15	NR	2.76	3.58	NR	9.90	3.51	NR	4.84	7.09	NR	14.74	0.96	1.18	2.08
	May ...	...	...	0.87	0.72	0.72	5.17	3.12	4.84	2.45	1.88	2.25	7.02	5.00	7.09	0.81	0.66	0.77
	June	...	...	0.79	0.75	0.71	6.20	6.14	10.20	4.11	1.78	2.52	10.31	7.92	12.72	0.61	0.62	1.20
	July ...	...	...	2.25	2.09	1.16	3.98	3.32	5.13	4.01	2.32	3.25	7.99	5.64	8.38	0.59	0.57	1.18
	August	...	...	2.68	2.44	2.18	4.28	2.48	3.78	3.61	2.25	3.31	7.89	4.73	7.09	0.73	0.91	1.08
	September	...	...	0.15	0.13	0.18	12.96	7.99	10.10	3.91	2.28	4.14	16.87	10.27	14.24	1.02	0.90	0.99
	October	...	...	2.29	2.21	1.93	4.71	4.16	4.77	5.04	3.86	4.21	9.75	8.02	8.98	1.24	1.15	2.20
	November	...	...	3.59	3.13	2.66	2.55	2.48	4.17	8.48	6.71	5.80	11.03	9.19	9.97	2.67	2.33	3.86
December	...	...	3.39	3.15	2.96	3.35	2.92	4.11	7.99	3.19	6.96	11.34	6.11	11.07	2.14	1.18	4.41	

ESTIMATION OF SULPHUR AND SMOKE CONCENTRATION BY THE VOLUMETRIC METHOD

MONTHLY AVERAGES OF DAILY CONCENTRATIONS

1959			Smoke m./gm/100m ³		Sulphur Dioxide ppl00m.	
			Site Number V 6	Site Number V 28	Site Number V 6	Site Number V 28
January	...	...	17.6	16.3	8.9	10.9
February	...	...	11.8	11.9	8.3	8.8
March	...	...	7.5	7.1	5.2	4.6
April	...	...	7.2	5.8	4.3	6.2
May	...	...	3.2	3.3	2.6	2.9
June	...	...	2.5	1.8	2.5	1.4
July	...	...	2.2	2.2	2.2	1.3
August	...	...	2.5	2.2	1.6	0.7
September	...	...	3.5	4.1	1.4	2.1
October	...	...	6.7	4.7	3.5	3.0
November	...	...	13.1	10.5	9.1	8.9
December	...	...	9.4	8.8	8.2	7.9

During 1959 the Council gave consideration to the establishment of smoke control areas within the Borough and agreed that the first area be designated during 1960 with four further areas being established one per year until 1964, the ultimate aim being to make the whole of the Borough into smoke control areas in twenty years. In addition it was agreed that any new development be included or made into smoke control areas.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There is an open-air public swimming bath situated at Keeper's Pool within Sutton Park, giving accommodation for adult swimmers in a large bath and for children within a smaller one.

The swimming bath normally operates from Whitsuntide until the end of August according to weather conditions and during the holiday season is very popular with visitors to the Park.

At the commencement of the season the baths are normally filled with a supply from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company main and are kept topped up during the season from the same supply. The water is treated by chlorination and sand filtration, the former by the break point method and the latter by means of two pressure filters.

In addition, appropriate chemicals are added to the water for the control of pH value and to assist in sedimentation. Since the installation of the break point chlorination plant some years ago, the water at these baths has been satisfactory.

Pumping apparatus ensures a turnover of the bath water at about six hours frequency.

The bath's attendant tests the water regularly for chlorine content and pH value and periodic checks are made by the Health Department and samples taken.

A copy of a bacteriological and chemical analysis is given below:

Bacteriological

Number of colonies capable of growth on Agar-Agar in one day at 37°C. per ml.	...	...	...	...	1
Number of colonies capable of growth on Rebigel-Agar in two days at 37°C. per ml.	...	...	...	...	0
Number of colonies capable of growth on Agar-Agar in three days at 20°C. per ml.	...	...	...	...	756
Presumptive B. Coli in 100 ml.	...	...	...	...	Absent

Chemical

					p.p.m.
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.84
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	1.04
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	...	76.5
Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrites	...	...	...	...	1.2
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate at 80°F. in four hours	...	...	...	...	4.6
Total Solids dried at 100°C.	...	...	...	...	610
Nitrite	...	...	...	...	Absent
pH	...	...	...	...	7.64
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	...	0.3
Appearance	...	...	...	...	Turbid, some large particles
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	...	...	...	...	165.0

DIRTY PREMISES AND DISINFESTATION

78 visits were made to dirty or unkempt houses. Very little of a verminous nature was found. Where necessary disinfestation is carried out by the Department.

INSECT CONTROL

(a) Individual Properties

322 visits were made in respect of complaints regarding infestation by a variety of creatures, including woodworm, ants, wasps, earwigs, etc.

During the past few years there has been an increasing call upon the Department for the destruction of wasps' nests and it was accordingly decided to levy a fixed charge for treatment.

(b) Sutton Park

Once again the Health Committee authorised extensive disinfection work by a contractor and two treatments were carried out in the sections of the Park thought to be the principal breeding grounds. The work was carried out between the months of May and early August.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council provides a comprehensive service for the destruction of rats and mice. The flat rate charge which has previously been made for the treatment of infested domestic premises was discontinued on the 1st April. The charge on a time and materials basis made for business premises continues.

Since the 1st April, 1958, one operator only has carried out rodent control work.

A total of 3,929 inspections were made during the year and in addition, as shown elsewhere, the Public Health Inspectors made 100 inspections for this purpose.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Non-Agricultural				(5) Agri- cultural
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (includ'g Council Houses)	(3) All other (includ'g Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1), (2) & (3)	
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	28	21,019	2,252	23,271	112
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	1	327	84	412	5
(b) Survey under the Act ...	—	609	84	693	1
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose)	—	—	—	—	—
3. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections ...	2	3,129	763	3,894	35
4. Number of properties inspected (in Section 2) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats — Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	37	37	74	5
(b) Mice — Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	6	1	7	—
5. Number of infested properties (in Section 4) treated by the L.A.	—	43	38	81	5
6. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments ...	2	94	45	141	3
7. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing) ...	—	—	—	—	—
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
9. Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
10. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	—	—	—	—	—

FACTORIES

The number of factories registered under the Factories Acts, 1937-1952 is 195.

The general standard of hygiene maintained at factory premises is satisfactory, only minor infringements having been noted.

Factories are inspected as a matter of routine by the Public Health Inspectors, and in addition, infringements are brought to the notice of the Department by H.M. Inspector of Factories.

The number of notices served during the year was three, but it must be borne in mind that attention is often drawn verbally by the inspectors at the time of visit, where minor infringements are found.

Particulars of inspections are set out in the following Table:—

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written notices</i>	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	12	9	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	128	138	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	55	40	—	—
Total ...	195	187	3	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	3	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	3	4	—	2	—

OUTWORKERS

19 persons were registered with the Local Authority as performing work of a registerable nature in their own homes.

The premises at which work is carried out are visited periodically and no contraventions of the Acts were noted during the year. 28 visits were made.

SCHOOLS

61 visits of inspection were made to schools in addition to the 78 visits made to school meals kitchens.

Sanitary accommodation was inspected and defects and lack of cleanliness were reported to the appropriate authority. All schools within the Borough are provided with mains water supply and washing facilities and are connected to the main drainage. The facilities are on the whole reasonably satisfactory.

SECTION 47, NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

During 1959 no applications under S.47 were required.

SECTION D

HOUSING

Housing Conditions

During 1959 the housing situation eased a little owing to the progress made by the Council in its building programme, 1,019 houses were erected in 1959 as compared with 913 for 1958, the bulk being private enterprise housing.

Dwellings handed over to the Corporation during 1959...	70
Houses and flats erected by private enterprise during 1959	949
Total houses erected in 1959	<u>1,019</u>

Corporation Housing as at 31/12/59

Temporary houses completed	100
Permanent dwellings completed 1945-59	2,337
Permanent dwellings erected prior to 1945	594
Total houses erected by Council to 31/12/59	<u>3,031</u>
Permanent dwellings under construction at 31/12/59	<u>118</u>

Private Enterprise Housing as at 31/12/59

Number of houses and flats completed since 1/8/45	5,889
Number of houses under construction	420
Total number of inhabited houses at 31/12/59	21,457

Year	Inhabited Houses Mid-year	Population Mid-year	Persons per Occupied House
1947	13,618	45,280	3.325
1948	13,887	46,190	3.326
1949	14,155	46,580	3.291
1950	14,391	47,440	3.296
1951	14,871	47,790	3.214
1952	15,016	48,180	3.209
1953	15,446	48,670	3.151
1954	16,008	49,780	3.109
1955	16,801	50,630	3.014
1956	17,497	52,510	3.001
1957	18,485	55,950	3.028
1958	19,600	58,670	2.993
1959	20,912	61,980	2.964

HOUSING INSPECTION

Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) ... 1,835
 (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 5,760

2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-heading (1) above) where inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 ... 164
 (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 164

3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 9

4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 324

5. Remedy of defects during the year, without service of formal notices—
 Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence ... 108

6. Action under Statutory powers during the year:
 - (a) Proceedings under Sections 9 and 10 of the Housing Act, 1957:
 - (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices served requiring repairs ... None
 - (ii) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—
 - (a) By owners ... None
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... None

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices served requiring defects to be remedied	68
(ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—	
(a) By owners 	52
(b) By Local Authority in default 	8

7. Proceedings under Sections 17 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957:

(i) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders 	2
(ii) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made 	4
(iii) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were made	5
(iv) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were determined	1

8. Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957:

(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit	None
(ii) Number of Closing Orders made 	None

9. Proceedings under Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1957:

(i) Number of houses included in Clearance Areas...	None
(ii) Number of dwelling houses demolished as a result of Clearance Area procedure 	13

SUB-STANDARD HOUSES

The five-year programme of sub-standard houses proceeded during the year and from the above figures it will be noted that nine houses were represented as unfit for human habitation in their present condition. Five of these were the subject of a Closing Order.

As will be seen from the figures given elsewhere in this Report, 646 visits were made to properties falling within the sub-standard category.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS

During the year steady progress has been made in enforcing a standard for houses let in lodgings made by the Council during 1958.

59 visits were made to such premises.

At the end of the year there were thirty houses within the Borough known to the Department as being let in lodgings. Whilst this number remains comparatively low, there has been a tendency towards an increase over the past few years and it is felt that the early enforcement of the minimum standard should ensure a reasonable standard of living for the occupants of this class of accommodation.

RENT ACT, 1957

There was a considerable reduction during the year in the number of applications for certificates under this Act. Only seven formal applications were received.

A number of informal enquiries continued to be made and in addition to this, interviews and 149 visits to properties were made.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The quality of food is adversely affected by chemical and bacteriological contamination. Excess preservatives, harmful chemical substances, dilution or other adulteration of the food is supervised by routine samples submitted to the Borough Analyst.

Bacteriological contamination occurs in a variety of ways, particularly by means of mishandling or unsuitable storage. Food originally clean or pure is rendered harmful by unhygienic practices.

Food hygiene instruction and advice is given during routine visits to food premises and also by lectures and demonstrations given to organisations within the Borough.

In recent years increasing attention has been paid to the inspection and supervision of food premises and the Food Hygiene Regulations have proved most helpful as a means of securing a higher standard. It does, however, involve the spending of more time at each visit to food premises than was formerly the case. Due to the constant change in the personnel of food shops attention must be given to ensure the maintenance of a satisfactory standard of food hygiene practice.

In order that food handlers should have the opportunity to learn more on the subject of food hygiene than can be given during routine inspections of shops, two series of talks and demonstrations each consisting of six lectures were given at weekly intervals during the early months of the year. Due to the limitations of the rooms available invitations were confined to the shops in the central area of the town.

The average attendance at the first series was 30 and 23 at the second series. Personnel attending the course were drawn in the main from restaurants, grocers, greengrocers, butchers, fishmongers and general stores.

Each course included a talk on elementary bacteriology and food poisoning, an explanation of the Food Hygiene Regulations, recommendations for improved efficiency and cleanliness of food premises, a talk on rodent and common pests control, unsound food and the compositional qualities of food. Films and film strips were also shown and discussed.

It is hoped to hold a further series of lectures to incorporate food handlers from shops in other areas of the Borough as time and opportunity permits.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1955/1956

Improvement of Food Premises

Much importance is placed on the periodic routine inspection of food premises, and by this means considerable improvement has been made through the post-war years in the hygienic standard of structures, fittings and equipment.

The introduction of the Regulations has led to a considerable increase in the number of improvements effected. The co-

operation from the trade has been such that in no instance has it been found necessary for legal proceedings to be instituted. In 1955, 91 improvements were made and in 1956 there were 387, in 1957 there were 274, in 1958 there were 259 and in the current year 304 as listed below:

<i>Article of Regulations</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory condition remedied</i>	
5	Insanitary construction of premises	24
6	Cleansing of equipment required	8
	Improvement of equipment required	3
8	Open food unprotected	12
	Clothing stored in food room	3
	Food stored in staff room	1
	Contamination by domestic animals	1
9	Smoking whilst handling open food	1
14	Sanitary accommodation defective	17
	Offensive odours to food room	2
	Hand washing notices not fixed	8
16	Cold water supply absent	4
	Wash hand basins not provided	22
	Hot water supply not provided	21
	Towels not available... ..	11
	Soap not available	9
	Nail brushes not available	11
17	First Aid material not provided	5
18	Clothing accommodation not provided	9
19	Sinks not provided	2
21	Ventilation deficient... ..	3
23	Decoration of walls and ceilings required... ..	38
	Cleansing of walls, ceilings, floors, doors, windows, etc.	12
	Cleansing of food stores required	5
	Walls and ceilings defective	20
	Floors defective	11
	Floor covering defective	4
	Cleansing of yards required	6
	Prevention of infestation recommended	4
24	Refuse removal required	5
	Refuse storage improvement needed	8
25	Temperature control of food by refrigeration, etc.	1
26	Mobile food vehicles defective	11
	No name and address on mobile vehicle	1
30	Protective overalls not provided	1
		<hr/> 304 <hr/>

CLASSIFICATION OF FOOD PREMISES

The number of food premises in the Borough by type of business is as follows:

Bakers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	18
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	42
Chemists' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	22
Fish—Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	4
Fish—Wet Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	8
Greengrocers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	48
Grocers' and General Shops	...	...	...	...	...	110
Ice Cream Shops	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sweetshops	...	...	...	...	...	50
Wines Shop/Beer Off	...	...	...	...	...	19
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	10
Hotel/Restaurant/Canteen	...	...	...	...	...	67
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	30
Preserved Food Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	6
School Meals Centres	...	...	...	...	...	33
Public Halls	...	...	...	...	...	21
Food Factories/Warehouses	...	...	...	...	...	9
Dairies and Milk Depots	...	...	...	...	...	4
Park Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	9
						512

The classification is made on the principal trade of the premises.

ICE CREAM

(a) Registered Premises

There are 188 premises in the Borough registered for the manufacture or sale of ice cream, in accordance with Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. These are:

- 1 registered for manufacture only
- 16 registered for manufacture and sale
- 171 registered for sale only

In addition, nine exempted premises such as hotels, clubs, etc. are known to sell the product and several mobile vehicles frequent the Borough.

Of those registered for manufacture or manufacture and sale, only one is at present doing so, the article produced being heat treated.

A high proportion of the premises registered for sale handle only a pre-packed article, and supplies in the main come from 12

manufacturers. There is preference for pre-packed ice cream on the grounds of ease of handling. This greatly assists the hygienic control of the commodity.

All registered premises are inspected as a routine and for record purposes such inspections are listed under the principal trade of the premises concerned.

(b) Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations 1947/1952

150 samples of ice cream were taken during the year for bacteriological examination, and the results are shown in the following table:

Type	Number Taken	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Not Tested
From Manufacturers: Hot Mix ...	6	5	—	1	—	—
From Retailers	144	126	18	—	—	—
Total	150	131	18	1	—	—

For the purpose of testing, the methylene blue reduction test recommended by the Laboratory Service is used. Grades one and two are normally considered satisfactory, grade three doubtful and grade four unsatisfactory.

PRESERVED FOOD

59 premises in the Borough are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved foods intended for sale.

The primary business of the premises registered is as follows:

Butcher	28
Cooked Meat Shop	5
Bakehouse	6
Grocer	7
Fried Fish Shop	4
Premises not in use at present	9

All food premises are subject to regular routine inspection and premises registered under Section 16 (b) are inspected for the purpose of the Section at the time of such routine visits. Details of visits to these premises can be found in the Public Health Inspector's Annual Tabular Statement of Visits.

MILK SUPPLY

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

The number of Milk Distributors registered in the Borough at 31st December, 1959, is as follows:

Resident in the Borough:

Distributors both producing and retailing	...	2
Distributors retailing only	... ..	6
Shopkeepers selling bottled milk only	... ..	34

Resident outside the Borough:

Distributors both producing and retailing	...	—
Distributors retailing only	... ..	14

The number of registered premises in use in the Borough is as under:

Bottled milk depots	... ..	—
Dairies	... ..	3

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1953

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1954

The following licences were granted for 1959:

Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk:

Dealers' Licences—

(a) Pasteurised	... ..	43
(b) Sterilised	... ..	48

Supplementary Licences—

(a) Pasteurised	... ..	14
(b) Sterilised	... ..	14

Raw Milk:

Dealer's Licences—T.T.	... ..	26
Supplementary Licences—T.T.	... ..	12

157

CONTROL AND DISTRIBUTION OF MILK

Since the 1st October, 1949, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has exercised control over the production of milk and the Local Authority has been responsible only for the supervision of treatment and distribution of milk.

This latter supervision is exercised by the inspection of premises, and frequent sampling of milk in the process of distribution to the customer.

During the year 23 inspections of premises were made and 294 samples of milk were taken, of which 238 were taken for bacteriological examination and 56 for biological test.

RESULTS OF TESTS													
Grade of Milk	Number of Samples	Phosphatase			Methylene Blue			Turbidity		T.B.			
		Passed	Failed	Not Tested	Passed	Failed	Not Tested	Passed	Failed	No. of Samples	Neg.	Pos.	Inconclusive
Pasteurised ...	165	162	3	—	136	19	10	—	—	3	3	—	—
T.T. Pasteurised	30	30	—	—	28	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
T.T. Raw ...	15	—	—	—	9	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sterilised ...	28	—	—	—	27	—	1	28	—	—	—	—	—
Ungraded ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	53	50	—	3*
Total ...	238	192	3	—	200	27	11	28	—	56	53	—	3*

* Guinea pig died from intercurrent infection.

HEAT TREATMENT

As from the 1st November, 1952, the Borough became part of a specified area, and it is now obligatory for all milks sold to be of special designation standard, i.e., pasteurised, sterilised, or tuberculin tested.

INSPECTION OF FOOD

The inspection of food is divided between (a) the inspection of retail shops and wholesale warehouses and (b) the inspection of meat in slaughterhouses.

There is in operation a voluntary scheme of surrender, under which certificates are given by the inspector and the unsound food removed for destruction by incineration at the Corporation refuse destructor.

(a) Food found unfit at retail shops and warehouses.

	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Number of Tins.</i>	<i>Number of Packets.</i>
Raw Meat	438		
Bacon	169		
Sausage and Meat Products ...	173		
Fats	5		
Cheese	229		
Fruit	1,550		
Dried Fruit	9		
Flour and Cereals	28		
Preserves	23		
Sweet Confectionery	75		
Frozen Food	250		677
Tinned Food	1,763	1,557	
	<u>4,512</u>	<u>1,557</u>	<u>677</u>

Total: 2 tons, 1 qr., 4 lbs.

(b) Inspection of Slaughterhouses

The decontrol of home killed meat came into effect in July 1954, and subsequently the Council approved the issue of four slaughterhouse licences. Only one slaughterhouse has been in regular use during the year.

All animals slaughtered were inspected, the total being:

7 Calves
194 Pigs
835 Sheep and Lambs

Conditions rendering meat unfit for human consumption were found as follows:

Pigs	7 heads	...	...	T.B.	...	...	...	84 lbs.
	1 pluck	...	...	T.B.	...	...	...	6 lbs.
	4 livers	...	...	T.B.	...	...	...	16 lbs.
	1 pluck	...	...	Adhesions	...	...	...	6 lbs.
	3 kidneys	...	...	Nephritis	...	...	...	1 lb.
	2 lungs	...	...	Pneumonia	...	...	...	2½ lbs.
	1 mesentery	...	...	T.B.	...	...	...	1½ lb.
	1 spleen	...	...	T.B.	...	...	...	½ lb.
Sheep and Lambs								
	29½ livers	...	...	Parasitic condition	...	...	...	44 lbs.

**CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND
CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART
During year ending 31st December, 1959**

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed (if known) ...	—	—	7	835	194	—
Number inspected	—	—	7	835	194	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</i> Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	31	6	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci ...	—	—	—	3·8	3·2	—
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i> Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	9	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	4·7	—
<i>Cysticercosis:</i> Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

FOOD POISONING

There were five cases notified during 1959, and five further cases came to the notice of the department.

There were two outbreaks, the one involving two persons and the other four. In the first instance the agent proved to be staphylococcus pyogenes and in the other case the agent was not identified. There were four single cases. In one case the agent was Salmonella typhi murium but in the other three cases the agent was not identified.

In addition, an investigation was made into a type of foodstuff on general sale which was alleged to be contaminated with a food poisoning organism. Following the investigation this food was withdrawn from sale.

BACTERIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD

Bacteriological

The Public Health Laboratory Service (Director: Dr. B. R. Sandiford), is in Great Charles Street, Birmingham, and food is submitted to this laboratory as necessary.

The service has proved extremely valuable in connection with the examination of milks, ice cream, water and food.

In all 583 samples and specimens were submitted during the year for bacteriological and microscopical examination as detailed below:

Food:	Milk—Bacteriological	...	...	238
	Biological	...	...	56
	Ice Cream	...	...	150
	Drinking Water	...	...	77
	Steakettes	...	...	1
	Beef Stew	...	...	1
	Ham	...	...	1
	Pork	...	...	1
	Table Jelly	...	...	1
Other Specimens:	Swimming Bath Water	...	...	2
	Throat Swabs	...	...	12
	Milk for Food Poisoning Organisms			1
	Faeces submitted by Public Health Department	...	...	39
	Faeces submitted by local practitioner	...	...	3
				583

Chemical

Analyses of samples of food and drugs taken under the Food and Drugs Act, are carried out by the Public Analysts for the Borough, Messrs. Bostock Hill and Rigby, who carry out chemical examination of food, water, drugs, etc., as required by the Department.

Mr. R. K. Chalmers, of Messrs. Bostock Hill and Rigby, comments on the year's work as follows:

"As in former years, a wide range of foodstuffs has been submitted for examination, and it would be difficult to name any foodstuff in common use which has not been examined.

180 samples of foods were examined, of which 15 were reported upon adversely.

This gives the percentage of unsatisfactory samples as 8·3%. Last year, out of 166 samples submitted 8·4% were reported against. Both the above figures appear to be higher than the average for the country and serve to emphasise the value of continued vigilance in these matters.

Again, one is pleased to pay tribute to the co-operative attitude of most manufacturers, evinced in their readiness to accept suggestions made by the Health Department for the improvement or withdrawals of unsatisfactory labels, and, in one or two instances, an improvement in the actual quality.

Only in the case of two samples of Alcoholic Peppermint Cordial, from the same manufacturer, was there any dispute as to the accuracy of the results obtained, accompanied, as is not unusual, by thinly veiled aspersions on the competency of the analyst. However, submission by the manufacturers of their own sample to another public analyst confirmed the figures of your own analyst which indicated a small deficiency of proof spirit.

A sample of mixed dried fruit bore a label stating 'This fruit has been carefully cleaned . . . but it may be considered advantageous to wash the fruit in the usual way'. Examination of the fruit revealed the presence of a greater number than usual of identifiable insect fragments, a finding which led to criticism of the first part of the statement, but emphatic agreement with the final clause. Insect parts are objectionable on the grounds that insects can be

carriers of disease germs. There is at present no legal standard controlling the amount of such impurities in this country, but an attempt is being made by the examination of numerous samples to arrive at some maximum figure which could be considered reasonable and readily attainable in practice.

A sample submitted as 'Chopped Chicken' was found to contain only 68% of chicken meat, whereas it was considered that such a label should be used to describe an article consisting practically entirely of chicken. A correct description would have been 'Chopped Chicken in stock'. It was reported, however, that a neighbouring authority had taken successful action in court a few weeks previously in connection with a similar sample, and it is presumed that in future this article will appear under a more modest label.

Mints containing Stomach Powder contained too little to justify the claim; there was also an excessive variation from sweet to sweet. The label was unsatisfactory under the Pharmacy and Medicines Act, and also misleading in respect of glucose.

The sale of Marmalade containing less soluble solids than the prescribed standard was at first claimed to be justified on the grounds that this was a diabetic product, although it was not sold as such. We could not agree to this claim, and the composition of the article was adjusted.

With the exception of one sample of milk containing 10% of extraneous water and a sample of flour deficient of Vitamin B, the remainder of the foodstuffs reported unsatisfactory were so mainly by reason of minor labelling offences, and were readily and satisfactorily dealt with by representations made to the manufacturers."

<i>Samples of</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
FOOD					
Butter	—	7	7	7	—
Cherries, Cocktail	—	1	1	1	—
Coffee	—	3	3	3	—
Colourings	—	2	2	2	—
Cordial, Alcoholic	1	1	2	—	2
Cream	—	4	4	4	—
Cream, Salad	—	1	1	1	—
Curd	—	1	1	1	—
Dessert	—	1	1	1	—
Drinks, Chocolate	—	2	2	2	—
Drinks, Soft	—	7	7	7	—
Fish Cakes	—	2	2	2	—
Flour	—	9	9	8	1
Fruit, Dried	—	4	4	3	1
Fruit, Glacé	—	1	1	1	—
Gin	1	—	1	1	—
Honey	—	1	1	1	—
Ice Cream	—	9	9	9	—
Jam	—	4	4	4	—
Jelly	—	4	4	4	—
Juice, Fruit	—	3	3	2	1
Margarine	—	1	1	1	—
Marmalade	—	2	2	1	1
Marzipan	—	4	4	4	—
Meat Pies	—	1	1	1	—
Milk, Bottled	26	—	26	25	1
Milk, Tinned	—	4	4	4	—
Mincemeat	—	2	2	2	—
Mixtures, Flour	—	1	1	1	—
Mustard	—	3	3	3	—
Oranges	—	1	1	1	—
Paste, Fish	—	1	1	1	—
Paste, Meat	—	2	2	1	1
Peaches	—	1	1	1	—
Peas	—	1	1	1	—
Peel	—	1	1	1	—
Pepper	—	1	1	1	—
Powder, Baking	—	2	2	2	—
Powder, Curry	—	1	1	1	—
Powder, Custard	—	6	6	6	—
Powder, Ice Cream	—	1	1	1	—
Pickle	—	1	1	1	—
Potatoes	—	1	1	1	—
Pudding, Christmas	—	3	3	3	—
Salt	—	1	1	1	—
Salt, Gravy	—	1	1	1	—
Sauces	—	7	7	6	1
Sausage	—	5	5	5	—
Soup	—	2	2	2	—
	28	124	152	143	9

<i>Samples of</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
FOOD (<i>totals brought forward</i>)	28	124	152	143	9
Syrup, Glucose	—	1	1	1	—
Syrup, Milk Shake	—	1	1	—	1
Sweets and Confectionery ...	1	9	10	6*	4
Tea	—	2	2	2	—
Vinegar and non-brewed cond.	—	5	5	5	—
Whisky	6	—	6	6	—
Wines	—	3	3	2	1
Yeast	—	1	1	1	—
DRUGS					
Foods, Medical	—	1	1	1	—
Lozenges, tablets, Pastilles, various	—	11	11	11	—
Mixtures, Medicinal	—	4	4	4	—
Oil, Medicinal	—	1	1	1	—
Salts, Epsom	—	1	1	1	—
	35	164	199	184	15

*One not examined.

SAMPLES TAKEN UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT AND REPORTED UPON AS UNSATISFACTORY

<i>No.</i>	<i>Nature of Sample</i>	<i>Formal or Informal</i>	<i>Nature of Deficiency</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>
22	Pasteurised Lemon Juice.	I.	Contained only 0.6 mg. Ascorbic Acid per 100 ml.—label misleading.	Label amended.
45	Mixed Dried Fruit ...	I.	Excess insect parts.	Representations made to importers.
64	Cherry Wine ...	I.	Label not in accordance with labelling of Food Order.	Bottlers agreed to amend label.
66	Chopped Chicken ...	I.	Deficient in meat.	Firm concerned proceeded against by another authority.
68	Mints	I.	Misleading label.	See sample No. 111.
81	Milk Shake Syrup ...	I.	Misleading label.	Label amended.

UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES *(continued)*

No.	Nature of Sample	Formal or Informal	Nature of Deficiency	Action Taken
99	Marmalade	I.	9% deficient in soluble solids.	Manufacturer agreed to increase soluble solids.
109	Butter Drops ...	I.	Label inaccurate (although listing of ingredients unnecessary).	Representations made to manufacturers.
108	Alcoholic Peppermint Cordial.	I.	Deficient 3.3% proof spirit.	See sample No. 137.
111	Mints	F.	See 68.	Label withdrawn from use.
118	T.T. Milk	F.	Contained 10% extraneous water.	Producers' explanation accepted by Committee.
137	Alcoholic Peppermint Cordial.	F.	Deficient 3% proof spirit.	Manufacturers' explanation accepted by Committee.
150	Plain Flour	I.	Deficient 16% Aneurin Hydrochloride.	Producers' explanation accepted by Committee.
163	Sauce	I.	Label unsatisfactory. No ingredients listed.	Stocks withdrawn.
178	Toffee	I.	Label unsatisfactory in reference to glucose.	Label withdrawn.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Diphtheria

I am pleased to report that once again there have been no cases of Diphtheria in the Borough during the year and that for the second time in any one year over one thousand children were

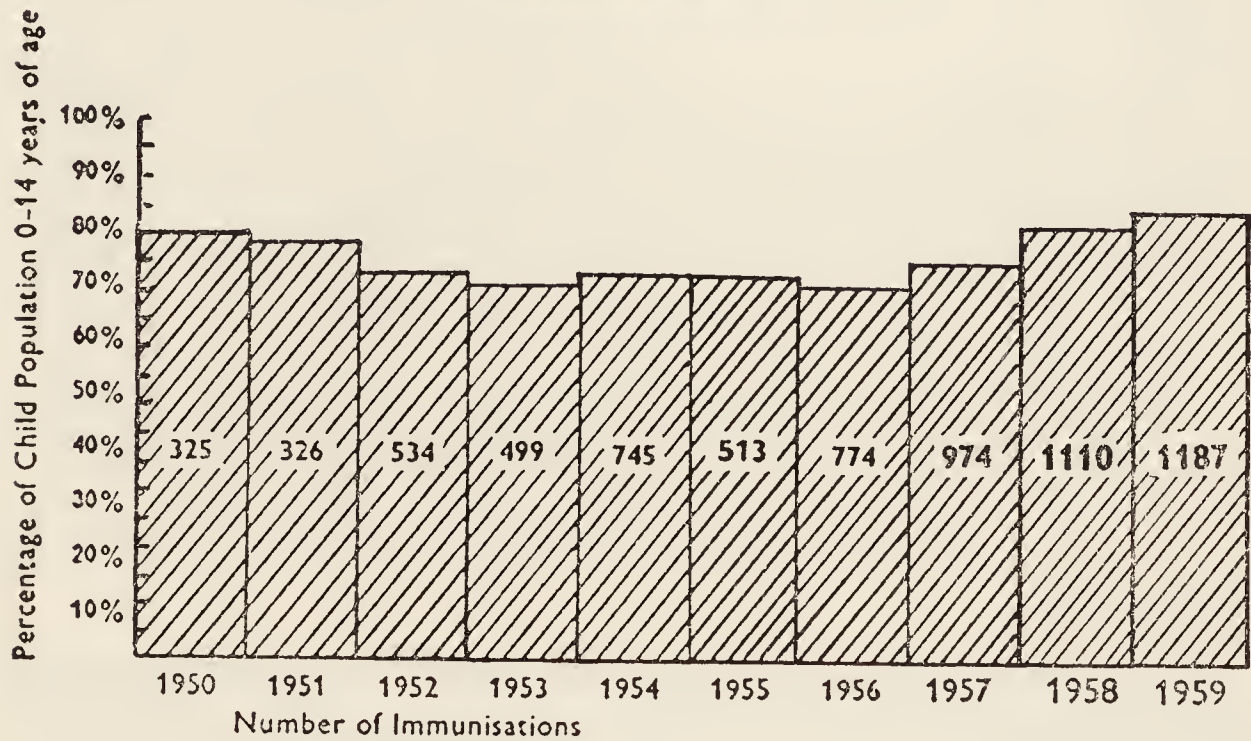
immunised against this disease. At the end of 1959, 83% of the child population under 15 years of age had been immunised. 1,187 children completed primary courses of immunisation, 1,157 in the age group 0—4 years and 30 in the age group 5—14 years.

Whilst the figures show there is a considerable response on the part of the parents in taking advantage of the immunisation offered, it cannot be too strongly stressed that every effort must be made to keep up a high level of immunity against this disease in the Community and I hope that all parents will ensure that their children are protected against this disease.

Diphtheria Immunisation

Complete Courses of Inoculation for the Past Ten Years

GRAPH No. 2



Scarlet Fever

The number of cases notified during the year showed a slight decrease there being 50 cases as against 55 for 1958.

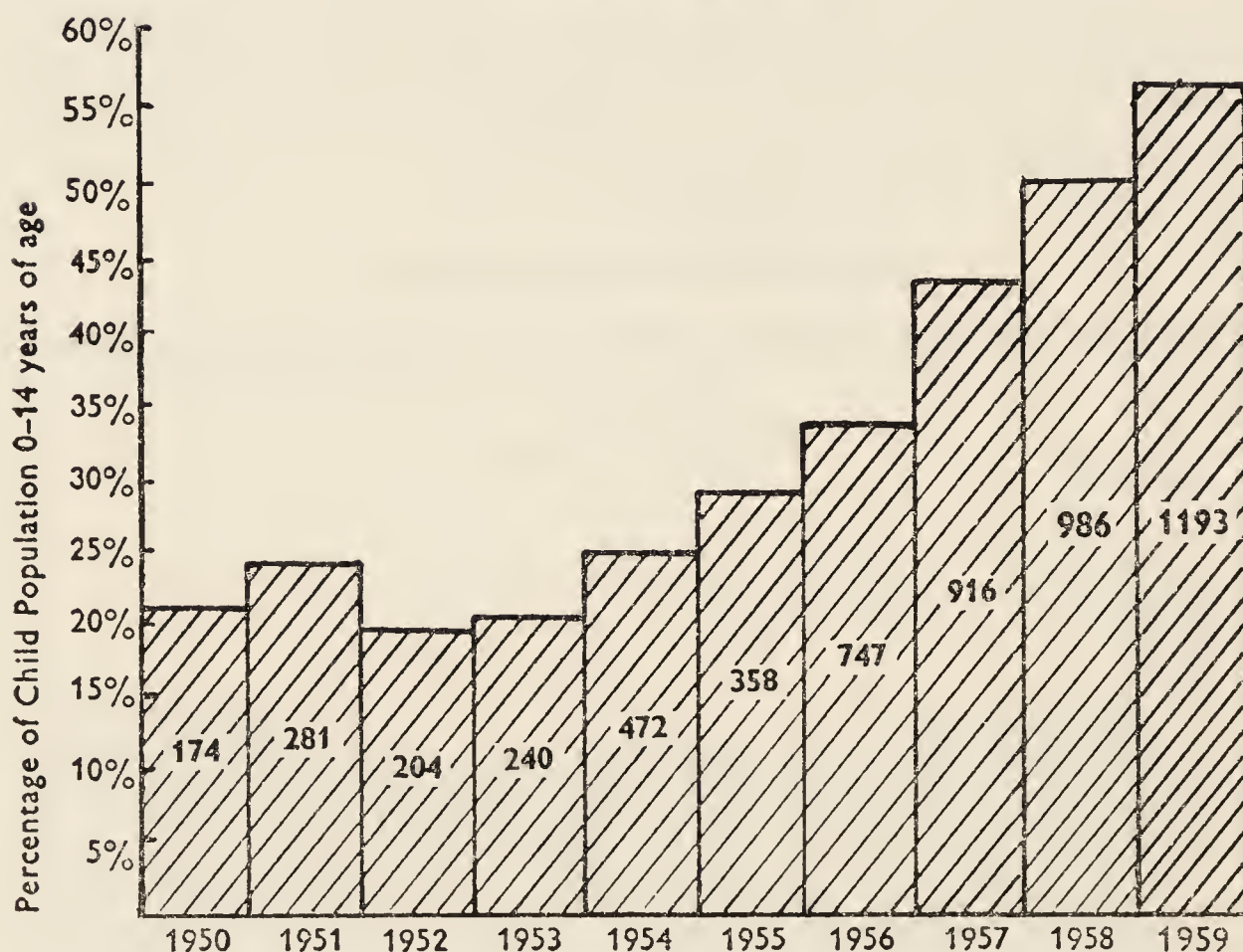
Whooping Cough

During the year 44 cases of Whooping Cough were notified—a decrease of 18 as compared with 1958, and no death occurred.

During the year 1,193 children were immunised as against 986 in 1958 and 57% of the child population 0—14 years of age have now been immunised. This is the first year that over 1,000 children have been immunised against Whooping Cough.

Whooping Cough Immunisation Number and Percentages of Cases Inoculated for the Past Ten Years

GRAPH No. 3



Pneumonia

There was a slight decrease in the cases of pneumonia notified during the year, there being 23 as compared with 28 in 1958, and 23 deaths occurred.

It will be noted that 23 cases of pneumonia were notified and 23 deaths occurred. On looking more closely at the figures however, 14 of the 23 cases were in persons between the ages of 55 and 89, in fact the average age of this group was 74 and it is well known that pneumonia in the elderly is a killing disease. Of the others, six cases of pneumonia followed on heart disease and two followed on debilitating diseases. One death occurred in a baby two days old.

When one recalls the deaths in middle age from pneumonia 25 years ago, it is interesting to note that there were no cases of pneumonia notified in any one under the age of 55 apart from the baby already mentioned.

Poliomyelitis

During 1959 one case of non-paralytic poliomyelitis was notified and was admitted to hospital and the subsequent diagnosis proved to be non-specific enteritis.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

During the year 2,896 children, 668 expectant mothers and 3,543 young persons received the first two injections, and 10,214 booster doses were given. Since the scheme began 18,485 individuals have received two injections and of this total 13,449 were children 0—15 years of age. So far 12,583 individuals have received their booster doses.

Typhoid and Paratyphoid

There were no cases notified during the year.

Dysentery

Eight cases were notified during the year as compared with two cases in 1958. Of these eight, one case was confirmed as being caused by *Shigella Sonnei*, in the other seven cases the causative organism was not found.

Measles

There was a large increase in cases notified this year, there being a total of 941 as compared with 456 cases for 1958. The majority occurred in the first and second quarters of the year.

Tuberculosis

This year there has been a slight increase in the number of notifications of tuberculosis. The number of new cases of respiratory tuberculosis notified this year was 25 as against 22 in 1958, and six cases of non-respiratory were notified, the same as 1958, making a total of 31 cases, three more than last year.

During the year one death occurred from respiratory tuberculosis as compared with two deaths in 1958.

In 1948 there were 143 on the register and at the end of 1959 there were 384 cases on the tuberculosis register, 342 being pulmonary and 42 non-pulmonary.

100 children received B.C.G. vaccination, most of these were done in Birmingham on school leavers attending schools in the city and four babies in Birmingham Hospitals, but 36 were vaccinated in Sutton Coldfield through the Area Health Services.

Tuberculosis

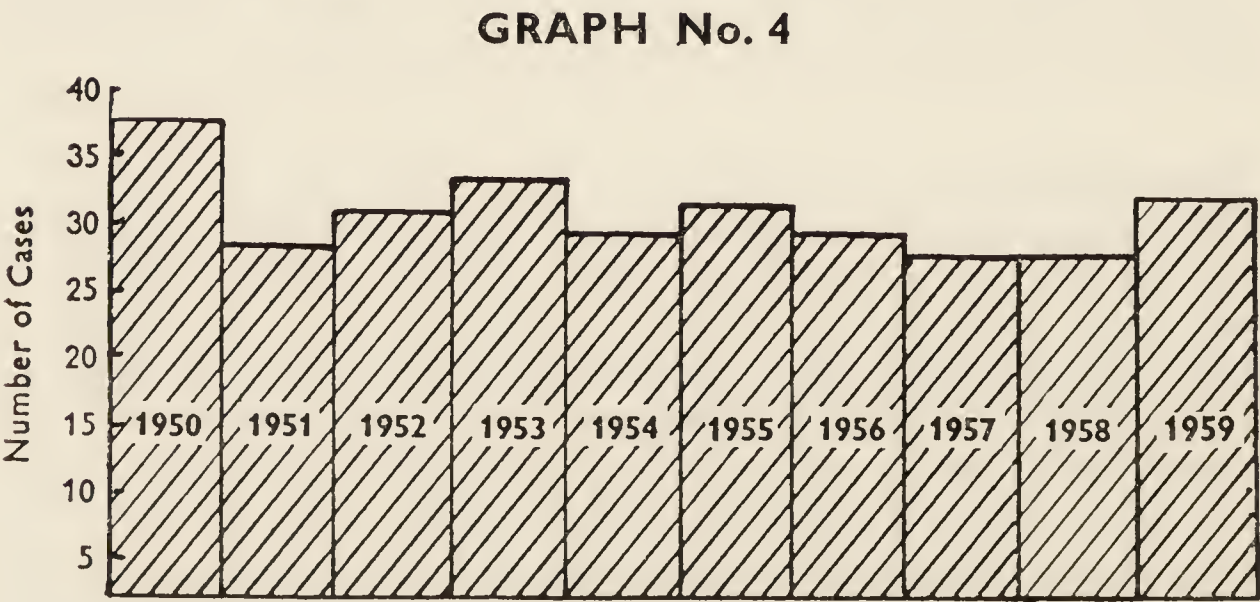
New Cases and Mortality during 1959

Age Group	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1– 5 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5–15 ...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
15–25 ...	4	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
25–35 ...	1	4	—	2	—	—	—	—
35–45 ...	4	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
45–55 ...	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55–65 ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over ...	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	16	9	1	5	1	—	—	—

Tuberculosis

Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary

New Cases for the Past Ten Years



Smallpox Vaccination

The vaccination of children under one year during 1959 was 81% of the live births during the twelve months ended June 1959. During the year 946 children under one year were vaccinated.

International Certificates of Vaccination

During 1959 under the International Sanitary Regulations 1952, 304 International Certificates of Vaccination against Smallpox, Cholera, Typhoid and Paratyphoid, were checked, stamped and countersigned.

Quarterly Notifications of Infectious Diseases

Disease	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Totals
Scarlet Fever	20	5	6	19	50
Whooping Cough	10	15	12	7	44
Poliomyelitis, Non-Paralytic ...	—	—	—	1	1
Measles	262	624	55	—	941
Dysentery	—	8	—	—	8
Meningococcal Infection	—	1	1	—	2
Pneumonia	17	3	—	3	23
Food Poisoning	3	—	2	—	5
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	1	1	—	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	1	—	1
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	7	7	5	6	25
„ Non-Respiratory	1	—	3	2	6
Totals ...	320	664	86	38	1,108

Notifiable Diseases Analysis of Deaths

Diseases	CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR														DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING THE YEAR													
	All Ages	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over	All Ages	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over		
Scarlet Fever ...	50	—	1	1	2	6	33	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Whooping Cough ...	44	5	3	7	4	5	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Poliomyelitis, Paralytic ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Measles ...	941	16	79	143	116	132	431	12	4	6	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Dysentery ...	8	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Meningococcal infection ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia ...	23	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	1	2	2	9	6	23	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	18	
Food Poisoning ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Tuberculosis, Respiratory ...	25	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	7	5	5	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
„ Non-Respiratory	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals	1,108	22	84	154	122	143	492	20	11	21	11	17	11	25	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	18	